### Military Biological Weapons Programs

#### Geoffrey Forden

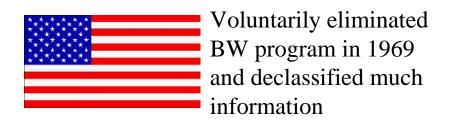
#### Security Studies Program, MIT

April 3, 2002

We now know what terrorists want from Biological Weapons, but what does a military want?



I will examine two programs we know a lot about:





Forced to "eliminate" program and much information gained from inspectors.

	Report Docum	entation Page
Report Date 03APR2002	Report Type N/A	Dates Covered (from to) 03APR2002 - 04APR2002
itle and Subtitle illitary Biological Weapons Programs		Contract Number F19628-00-C-0002
		Grant Number
		Program Element Number
Author(s)		Project Number
Forden, Geoffrey		Task Number
		Work Unit Number
<b>Performing Organization</b> MIT Lincoln Laboratory 24 02420-9108	Name(s) and Address(es) 4 Wood Street Lexington, M	Performing Organization Report Number [A
Sponsoring/Monitoring A Address(es)	gency Name(s) and	Sponsor/Monitor's Acronym(s)
Air Force ESC/XPK (Richard Axtell) Hanscom AFB, MA 01731		Sponsor/Monitor's Report Number(s)
Distribution/Availability S Approved for public release		
	Tew England Bioterrorism Pr ton, MA, The original docur	reparedness Workshop held 3-4 april 2002 at MIT nent contains color images.
Abstract		
Subject Terms		
Report Classification unclassified		Classification of this page unclassified
Classification of Abstract unclassified		<b>Limitation of Abstract</b> SAR
Number of Pages 18		

### Estimates of Historical Weapons Effectiveness

Combatants

•Precision Guided Munitions: 0.75 Casualties/ton

•World War I Chemical Weapons: 10 Casualties/ton (0.2 deaths/ton)

•Iran-Iraq War Chemical Weapons: ~35 Casualties/ton

Civilians

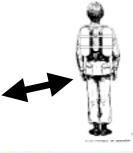
- •1995 Tokyo Sarin Attack (CW): ~2200 Deaths/ton
- •Atomic Bomb (Hiroshima): ~100,000 Deaths/ton
- •Anthrax Attacks (October Incident): ~1,000,000 Deaths/ton
- •Thermonuclear: ?

## The U.S. Biological Weapons Program

#### 1. Artillery shells



2. Stationary generator left behind by special forces.



3. Boat mounted line spray source



4. Naval point source



5. Self-dispersing spheres



6. Flettner rotors

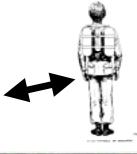


7. Drone mounted line spray source.

1. Apillary shells
Abandoned



2. Stationary generator left behind by special forces.



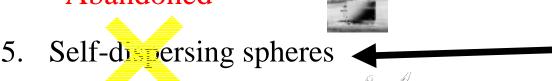
3. Boat mounted line spray source



4. Naval oint source

Abandoned

Obsolete





6. Flettne rotors



7. Drone mounted line spray source.



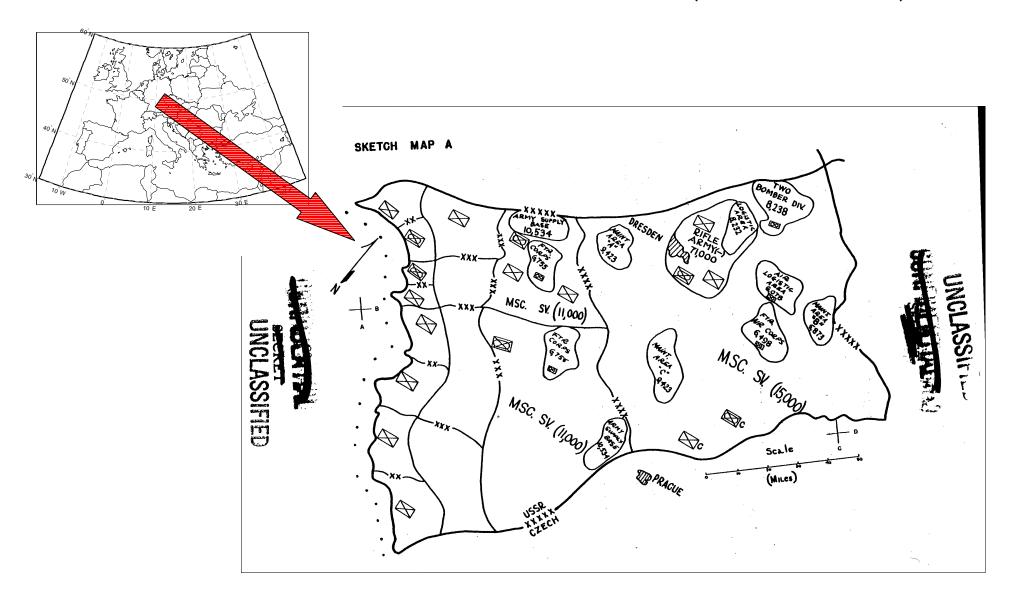
Overview of Various BW weapon Systems.



# Military Uses of Biological Weapons: Serious Suggestions, Far from

being actual war plans!

## Using Tactical BW in General War: blunting a Soviet Attack (ca. 1958)



### Using Tactical BW in <u>General War</u>: Blunting a Soviet Attack (ca. 1958)

Resources required for BW mission:

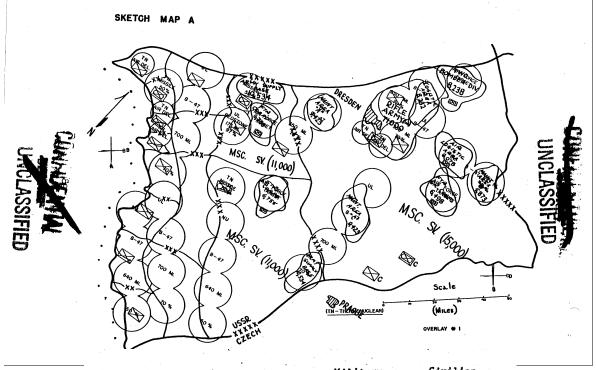












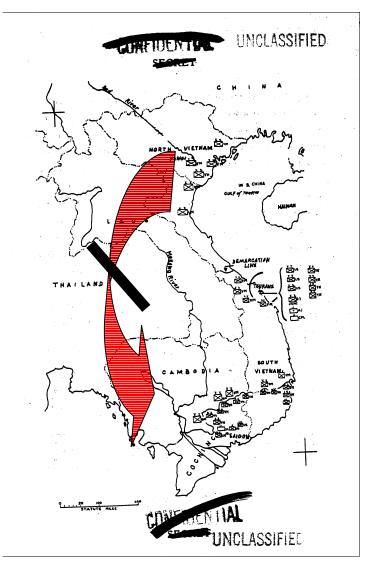
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NOTE: Total ground troops in southern army front, 429,250.

### Using "Strategic" BW in a Peripheral War: blunting a Soviet Attack (ca. 1958)

#### Goals:

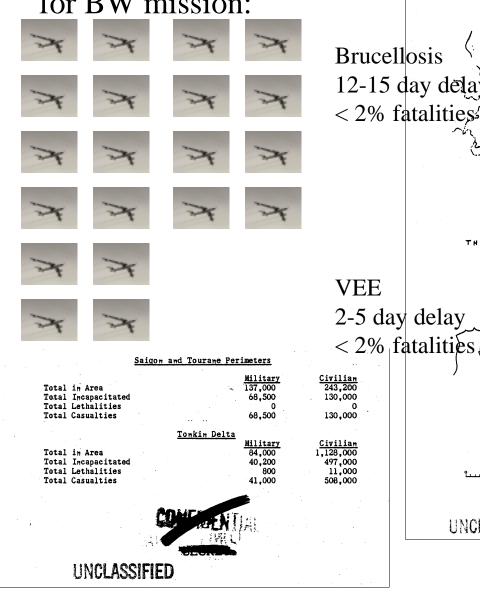
- 1) Block troop transfer from the North to the South.
- 2) Incapacitate enemy troops in the South to reduce their effectiveness at defense.

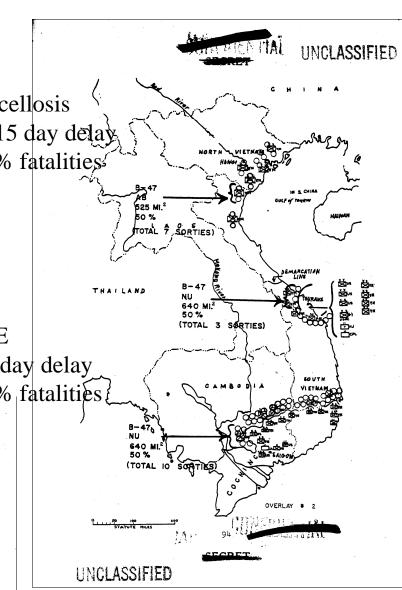


#### Assumption:

US fights a static defense until all its forces are in place. It can then launch an offensive at a time of its choosing, i.e. 7 days after BW attack.

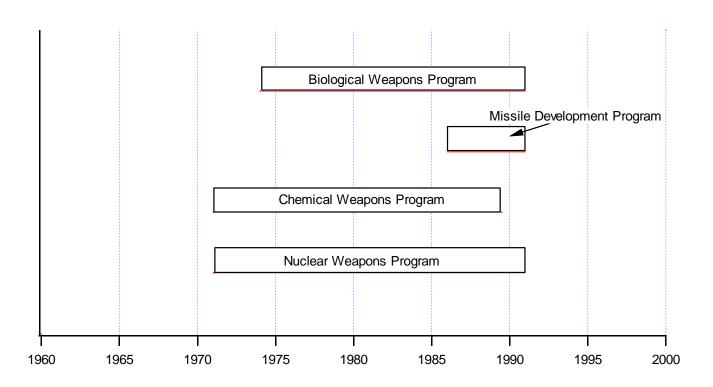
Resources required for BW mission:



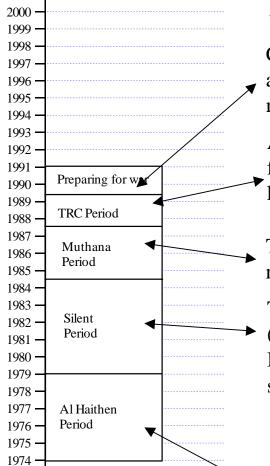


### Iraq's Biological Weapons Program

## Timeline of Iraq's WMD Programs



### The Different Periods of Iraq's BW Program



2001

1973 1972

1971

1970

Concepts of operations were formed but UNSCOM does not know much about these since they are prohibited from inquiring about military maters.

A procurement network was established (for importing needed items from outside the country) and planning took place, but not much else is known about Iraq's activities.

This period was dedicated to weapons development, with some research.

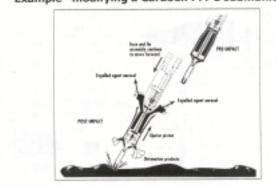
This was primarily a training period with students sent abroad for PhDs (mostly to the UK). Existing facility was closed. During this period, Iraq isolated bacteria and viruses, investigated drying processes, taught students, and built up an institute.

During this period, the goals of the program were "dirty tricks" associated with assassination of political opponents (staining shirts with ricin) and protection of the President (food poison testing). But the program failed with people being sent to jail because of fraud, for instance. However, the people who ended up leading the BW program were associated with it at this period.

## Weaponization of Iraq's BW Agents

#### **Biological Munitions**

Example-modifying a Cardoen PM-1 submunition

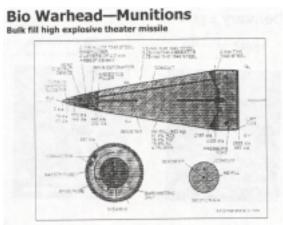


Iraq tried to set up a factory for these tactical warheads that could be filled with either CW or BW. They are made to look just like normal HE 155 mm rounds, presumably to prevent Iranians from taking CBW defense measures.

UAV delivery of BW



Iraq tried to develop remotely controlled Mirage fighters with large drop tanks filled with BW, even into the Gulf War.



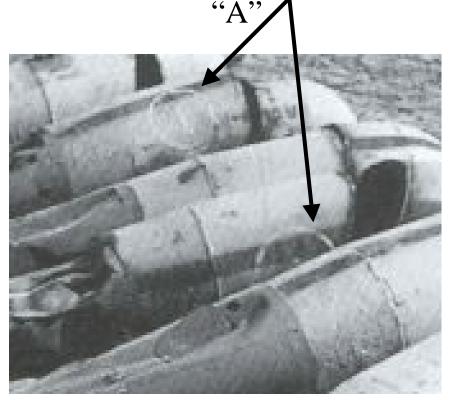
25 SCUD warheads were filled with anthrax. These were filled in the period before the 1991 Gulf War.

## Weaponization of Iraq's BW Agents (Cont')



These gravity bombs were filled with CW, as indicated by the empty circle. BW bombs had an Arabic A in side the circle.

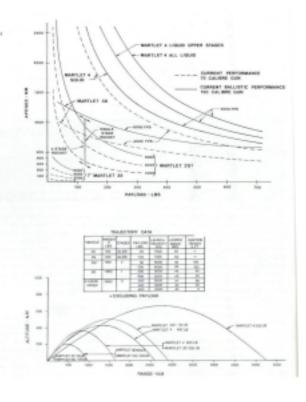
CW markings, BW bombs had an Arabic



### Supergun—A new way of getting Intercontinental Distances



A supergun (termed little Babylon), with 350 mm diameter, as actually built but apparently not tested. This version was built as a fixed direction/launch angle. But it could have been weaponized to a more mobile version.



Clandestine BW Dispersal

